

Minutes of the Safety Committee Meeting
Sheffield Lake, Ohio
November 5, 2008

The regular meeting of the Safety Committee was held Wednesday, November 5, 2008. Chairman Bring called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Bring, Elliott, Rosso

Attending: Councilman Kovach, Fire Chief Conrad, Members of the Media: Avon Lake Press

READING OF THE MINUTES:

*Motion by Elliott to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2008 meeting with any corrections. Yeas All.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

REPORTS FROM THE SAFETY FORCES:

POLICE CHIEF SHEPHERD: Chairman Bring advised I know that Larry is not here but I had brought something up to him the other day about Thelma and Gayle and stuff like that but the parking. I talked to Captain Komlosy about that, the reason they haven't actually ticketed anybody is because they had no markings on the street and for them to determine 20-feet from the corner by just being there without getting out and tape measuring it – he said it is next to impossible and I had to agree with him because 20-feet isn't very much. He had actually brought up that there is some parts where they had – it should be almost 60-feet and that is something we should probably bring up to Ordinance. Mr. Elliott stated 20-feet does not seem enough. Chairman Bring advised in certain corners, when you are coming around the corner 20-feet is not enough. Captain Komlosy stated to me it should almost back 60-feet to make it safe. Chairman Bring continued there is only a couple of streets that are like that with the bigger bends and actually where Thelma and Gayle are around there that one corner that is like is an issue. He agreed with me that there is a problem over there but they have actually had 0 calls on it, so nobody seems to be bothered by it. Mr. Elliott advised nobody seems to be bothered by it now but when you need to get a fire truck down there or school bus or something like that. Chairman Bring advised there have been no accidents either, I asked him about that and there have been no accidents. But yes exactly, if something does happen or if they come around the corner and there happens to be another car coming it is definitely going to be a problem. Actually I went around there the other day and there was somebody coming and you have to stop and pull over if you are coming at the same time or if you come around that corner it is like a blind corner over there. But I would like to refer that to Ordinance. Mr. Elliott asked is there any other corners Chief, is there any other intersections you wanted us to look at? Fire Chief Conrad answered nothing in particular sticks out. Chairman Bring advised Pat, when he gets a chance, he is going to go out with the guys

and they are actually do some markings and stuff. So they are aware of it but right now they are doing some stuff down there at the boat ramp. Mr. Elliott stated actually they have been getting things done, they have been things accomplished. Chairman Bring advised there was something that came up here recently that should have been done before but they didn't get a chance. But they do have a list of that and Pat is going to go out and do some measuring to determine exactly where to put the marks so the Police will be able to figure that out. Mr. Elliott asked or should they hold off on that until we decide. Chairman Bring advised a couple of things where they are going to mark it is still going to be the same amount of feet. I think we had the same issue over here off of Brockley. Mr. Elliott added Holl and all those streets over there. Chairman Bring stated none of them are marked and now that we got the streets fixed up a little bit. Mr. Elliott advised in fact, at the end of Holl there was a school bus that hit a parked car down there and they found out that it was too close to the corner – it was a clearance issue. Mr. Elliott continued I called the Police Chief the other day about a couple of other things – Halloween went smooth. Other than the 6 cars that we agreed to only 4 of them are running right now. Although we did get another one back the other day I guess, so we have 5 out of the 6 now running. The Chief told me the problem is that none of these cars are under warranty anymore. So now that they are not under warranty we are having to pay for everything that goes wrong. He told me to keep in mind that these warranties only last for 50,000 miles, now with only 6 cars we go through 50,000 on one single vehicle in a year. So pretty much as soon as we get these cars, the following year the warranty is gone on them. I also talked to him about the possibility of adding a vehicle which was the Detective Bureau that we talked about. I would hope that that would not be considered part of the 6, that that would actually be a 7th car that belongs to the Police Department. If he wants to go with 6 cars and that is fine but you know those should be 6 patrol cars. Chairman Bring advised he brought up something about I guess there was a shooting or something and they didn't have anyway to transport. Mr. Rosso advised he had brought that up at the last one. We had talked to Captain Komlosy about that prior to that meeting didn't we. They have no place to store evidence and they were running back and forth. Chairman Bring advised that is something that we will bring up to budget and we will have a discussion on that. Mr. Elliott stated it doesn't have to be a full-size car, it could be a smaller car that they can keep all their stuff in. There was a brief discussion. Mr. Elliott asked do we actually plan on getting 2 or 3 new cars this year? Chairman Bring answered I don't know, I haven't heard anything. Mr. Rosso stated we got 2 last year. Mr. Elliott advised I don't think we got any this year. There was a brief discussion on lease program. Chairman Bring advised we were talking about doing it every year but they have been skipping years. Mr. Elliott advised keep in mind they are getting rid of those jeeps, so those are no longer in service. Chairman Bring advised actually Wendy got one of the jeeps, so that is actually back in service for the Building Department. Mr. Rosso stated I thought there an issue about we needed the jeeps because of the members of the county SWAT Team needed it. Chairman Bring advised the reason that I think they wanted them because they thought they would hold up better than anything else and they do hold extremely well. Avon Lake Press John Edwards advised the year we bought the jeeps they were cheaper. Mr. Elliott advised when you have bad snow storms which we are almost having once a year now, they are nice to have. Chairman Bring

advised when we go over the budget I am sure that the Mayor will have some ideas but we will have to bring that up and talk about that. Mr. Elliott advised 2 more things that the Chief wanted me to bring up. One was of the 3 guys, 2 of them are pretty much on their own. The concern is now that with the addition of the extra shift now at peak times, is depleting his part-time budget. Mr. Rosso stated that is how it is going to get increased. Chairman Bring concurred the extra funding because of the tickets. Mr. Rosso asked did he put it in their part-time budget? Chairman Bring answered I don't know if the Mayor did that because that was part of the reason why we did that. There was a brief discussion on extra patrol. Chairman Bring advised on Halloween night, I saw them at least 4 times on one street. I was pretty impressed by that.

- 1.) ***Radio communications within departments*** – Chairman Bring advised everybody got the cell phones and I guess they are all in use now. Fire Chief Conrad advised the ones in our ambulances, we had to keep the old phones so that the cable that we have for the life pak 12 would send the telemetries to the hospital. The new phones don't have that capability for whatever reason so you don't have the push to talk in the ambulances, we have it in the fire trucks and in the station. Chairman Bring advised the one thing I heard is the battery life is only about 3 hours of life at a time. There was a brief discussion.

FIRE CHIEF CONRAD: Fire Chief Conrad reported the fire hydrants are finished, they finished those up about a week or two ago. The usual problems, some of them not working. They are going to pass that lists onto the Service Department and they usually do a pretty good job of getting those back in service as soon as they can. Chairman Bring asked do you know how many of those were actually bad. Fire Chief Conrad answered I don't have that number. Now typically it is anywhere from 10 to 20 a year. Some of it has to do with how they were maintained in the past. We were always told to put the grease gun on them and give them as much grease as we could and then over the years that grease congeals and it actually makes things worse. That is part of the problem and the Service Department has been on a program to replace a few every year also. The fire truck grant is closed out, the equipment grant is closed out, the fire prevention grant – we purchased some items the other day to finish out the monetary side of that and when those items come in and those bills are paid then we will close out that grant. I did get a notice from the Assistance to Fire Fighters grant asking if we still wanted the items I applied for in '08, asking if we had the funds to pay our share – that was the precursor for getting all the grants that we got last year. So hopefully we are in line for some additional grants this year. That would be the thermal imager, the hydraulic rescue tool, the heavy duty washing machine to wash our turn-out gear and some rope training and equipment. Chairman Bring asked what was our percentage that we had to pay out of that? Fire Chief Conrad answered 5%. Mr. Elliott asked is that equipment that we are getting? Fire Chief Conrad answered that is the stuff that I applied for and we passed the first step of the process and we are in the second step – that is where we were last year before we were awarded the grants. Chairman Bring advised actually they were taking their clothes and having them washed. Mr. Rosso advised Avon Lake wasn't it? Fire Chief Conrad answered yes. Fire Chief Conrad

continued S71 was having a problem with the transmission, we had to take that in and have the transmission rebuilt, the costs was just under \$2000.00 and it was out of service for another week. Same old story, as the equipment gets older and gets more miles on it we are continuing to have more breakdowns and costs for repairing those vehicles rise and the amount of time that they are out of service continues to rise. Chairman Bring advised I did bring that up, I spoke to somebody about that and there is probably no immediate future that is going to happen to my understanding - but I did mention it. Mr. Rosso joked Mike is only worried about the next 60 days. Fire Chief Conrad advised we will get through the next 60 days, you are quickly getting to a point though where neither one of those vehicles should be a front-line vehicle any longer and just a matter of time. Chairman Bring asked what is the dates on those 2 vehicles? Fire Chief Conrad guesstimated I am thinking a '95 and a '98 possibly/'95 or '99 – it is in that time frame. Mr. Elliott stated I thought it was a '95 and a '97 but you are probably right. Fire Chief Conrad advised it is somewhere in that time frame. Chairman Bring asked do you guys keep a record for the total service of both those vehicles or all of your vehicles for the year? Fire Chief Conrad answered yes, we can pull that up through the bill paying about your system and run a vendor check and the items that were worked on and what they costs and which vehicles. Chairman Bring asked do you think that would be possible to get for the next meeting? Fire Chief Conrad answered sure. Chairman Bring asked do you have something on the old fire engine too, maintenance on that – did we keep record of that? Fire Chief Conrad answered we did, there wasn't a whole lot that we put into it the last couple of years, if we were going to hang on it there was some maintenance we were going to get into. Chairman Bring advised the reason I am bringing it up is just the fact of what we spent for that last year as to what we probably won't spend for the next couple of years. Fire Chief Conrad advised we didn't spend a whole lot on 62 the last couple of years, unfortunately there won't be any savings realized over our current budget. Chairman Bring asked you said the number of calls that you guys have been on lately, is that increased over last year? Fire Chief Conrad answered it has, I don't have the exact number of what we went on last year but we are probably running in the area of 5 to 10% more calls. Chairman Bring asked these are accidents and stuff like that. Fire Chief Conrad answered nothing out of the ordinary, just an increase in volume. Mr. Elliott advised if you would like, I talked to the Police Chief a couple of days ago – I can bring up some of his concerns. Chairman Bring asked when we purchase diesel fuel and stuff, is that something we purchase through here – did we purchase that at a higher rate, do you know for the vehicles? Fire Chief Conrad answered I don't know what the rate is for diesel fuel, I know that the city bid that out collectively and then there is a process that Dawn goes through where she takes so much from each budget based on the usage. Chairman Bring asked they fill the trucks up right over here though right? Fire Chief Conrad answered we fill up the 2 ambulances and the old fire truck. The new fire truck we got a credit card for BP, we have to go up to the fuel station up there to get that ultra-low sulphur diesel fuel. We can't use the diesel fuel that is here, it is just low sulphur and it would ruin the new truck. Chairman Bring asked we got the benches and everything fixed for the new truck – cabinets? Fire Chief Conrad answered they are still working on 1, possibly 2 cabinets but they are real close to getting done. They may have finished up one of those last night, they were trying to get that put together. Chairman Bring asked that was

the last things to do for that wasn't it? Fire Chief Conrad answered yes and then that will be in service as a front-line truck. One thing for next year we would like to do is get the old fire truck in for an estimate to have some of that body work done, around some of the openings there is that electrolysis on the aluminum where it bubbles up and the paint starts to flake off. The truck is too new and in too good of shape now to ignore it for 5 or 10 years. We did that years ago on 62, Chief Rouse asked for like 2 or 3000.00 one year to have the work done and Council couldn't find the money at that time and they put it off and put it off and it was like 3 or 4 years later they had to come up with 20,000.00 to fix it at that time. So it is really to everybody's advantage once we get this new truck outfitted and use it for a little while, possibly next spring or early summer have it looked at and come up with an estimate of what kind of repairs we would be looking at and then hopefully get that taken care of. Chairman Bring stated maybe the end of the year for the budget. Mr. Elliott stated it seems like if we don't do it now then we will end up paying for it later. Chairman Bring advised I have actually seen that by the hinges and by the doors. Fire Chief Conrad advised it is my understanding the way they used to get that out was a cutting process that heated up the metal and that caused it to change mercurially and that is what is causing the electrolysis or whatever it is caused.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTARY: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee, Motion by Rosso to adjourn at 7:28 PM. Yeas all.

CLERK OF COMMITTEE AFFIRMATION: This Meeting Of The City Committee OF The City Of Sheffield Lake, Ohio Was Held And Conducted Under All Rules And Regulations Governing The Sunshine Laws Of The State Of Ohio AS They May Apply. All meetings are recorded and available in council's office.

CLERK OF COMMITTEE

Kay Fantauzzi

I, Kay Fantauzzi, duly appointed Clerk of Committees of Sheffield Lake DO HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and exact copy of the Minutes of Committee of November 5, 2008.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE

Dennis Bring

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Edward R Podmanik

and/or

COUNCIL PRO TEM

Richard Rosso